



GREEN SPRING GARDENS PARK

PLANT INFORMATION SHEET

4603 GREEN SPRING ROAD □ ALEXANDRIA □ VIRGINIA 22312

PHONE: (703) 642-5173 □ FAX: (703) 642-8095

WWW.GREENSPRING.ORG

RECOMMENDED HARDY AND TENDER VINES FOR THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

Vines are climbing or trailing plants that beautify the landscape while taking up little space. Vines can be used solely for their ornamental value, such as highlighting an attractive trellis or tripod. They can be used for more utilitarian purposes, such as a screen to help provide privacy or to block undesirable views. They can provide shade on such structures as arbors.

Vines support themselves in two ways:

- Twining - the main stem or tendrils twine around supporting structures
- Clinging - aerial rootlets or adhesive disks attach to supporting structures.

Climbing roses, although not true vines, are sometimes treated as such when their long canes are tied to supports.

Twining vines can be used easily on trellises and wire fences. Clinging vines can be used on brick or stone walls and tree trunks. Do not grow clinging vines on houses with wooden siding because the siding will rot.

The following are useful definitions:

- Cultivar (cv.) - a cultivated variety designated by single quotes (e.g., 'Tangerine Beauty').
- Full Shade - the amount of light under a dense deciduous tree canopy or beneath evergreens.
- Part Shade - the amount of light in an area shaded part of the day, among deciduous trees with high branches, among deciduous trees with foliage that is not heavy, or among thinned deciduous woods.

The following is a list of hardy vines (a mix of woody plants and herbaceous plants; herbaceous plants are noted; whether a woody plant is deciduous, semi-evergreen, or evergreen is noted) and tender vines (all herbaceous plants) that perform well in the Washington, D.C. area. Recommended cultivars are listed in parentheses. Most hardy vines prefer a moist, well-drained site. Light requirements, any special cultural requirements or tolerances, and additional information are listed in the comments column. Tender vines generally need full sun (6 hours or more of sunlight daily) in a moist, rich site

to perform well. Tender vines should be planted after May 1 and are killed by hard frost in the fall, so they need to be replanted yearly unless they reseed. Species that are native to Virginia are marked with an asterisk (*).

[Gold Medal Plant Awards are given annually by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society to underused woody plants that perform especially well in gardens from New York City to Washington, D.C.]

A. Hardy Vines

Scientific Name	Common Name	Comments
<i>Aristolochia macrophylla</i> (<i>A. durior</i>) *	Dutchman's Pipe	Full sun to part shade; twining; deciduous
<i>Bignonia capreolata</i> * (‘Tangerine Beauty’, ‘Dragon Lady’ [Gold Medal Award])	Crossvine	Full sun to light shade; twining; semi-evergreen to evergreen; tolerates dry sites
<i>Campsis radicans</i> * Note: <i>C. grandiflora</i> ‘Morning Calm’ won a Gold Medal Award but we have not evaluated it at Green Spring	Common Trumpet creeper	Full sun to light shade; clinging (strong support needed); deciduous; tolerates dry sites
<i>Celastrus scandens</i> *	American Bittersweet	Full sun to light shade; twining; deciduous; tolerates dry sites
<i>Clematis</i> hybrids (‘Betty Corning’ [Gold Medal Award], ‘Etoile Violette’, <i>C. × jackmanii</i> , ‘Nelly Moser’, ‘Polish Spirit’, & ‘The President’ are some cultivars that have performed well locally; Roguchi’ is a short climber that is very dense – one parent is a herbaceous perennial clematis) <i>C. tangutica</i> Native clematis: a good species that is commercially available is <i>C. viorna</i> *	Clematis Golden Clematis Vasevine	Full sun to light shade; twining (nice on large shrubs); deciduous
<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i> * (‘Pride of Augusta’ [‘Plena’])	Carolina Yellow Jessamine	Full sun to light shade; twining; evergreen; tolerates dry sites
<i>Hydrangea petiolaris</i> (<i>H. anomala</i> subsp. <i>petiolaris</i>)	Climbing Hydrangea	Full sun to part shade; clinging; deciduous
<i>Lonicera × heckrottii</i> <i>L. sempervirens</i> * (‘Cedar Lane’, ‘John Clayton’* is supposedly an improved form of ‘Sulphurea’)	Everblooming Honeysuckle Trumpet Honeysuckle	Full sun to part shade; twining; deciduous to semi-evergreen; tolerate dry sites

<i>Mikania scandens</i> * 'Florence' (herbaceous)	Florence Climbing Hempweed	Full sun to light shade in moist to wet sites; twining
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> * (best for naturalistic use) <i>P. tricuspidata</i> ('Veitchii')	Virginia Creeper Boston Ivy	Full sun to full shade; clinging; deciduous; tolerate dry sites
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i> * (herbaceous) <i>P. lutea</i> * (herbaceous) Note: both species tolerate dry sites & sucker profusely when happy – best for naturalistic use	Maypops Yellow Passionflower	Full sun; needs good drainage & full sun; twining; dies back to ground each winter Full sun to light shade; twining; dies back to ground each winter
<i>Rosa</i> 'Dortmund', 'New Dawn', & 'William Baffin' ('Dr. Van Fleet' performs well but flowers once a year)	Climbing Roses	Full sun; these climbing roses are repeat bloomers & disease resistant; deciduous
<i>Schizophragma hydrangeoides</i> ['Moonlight' – Gold Medal Award] Note: <i>S. integrifolium</i> (Chinese Hydrangea-vine) is also a lovely vine	Japanese Hydrangea- vine	Light shade to part shade in a consistently moist site; clinging; deciduous
<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i> * cvs. such as 'Coward' (most need a pollinator for fruit but 'Ison's Muscadine' is an exception [self-fertile]). The highly disease resistant wine grape 'Villard Blanc' has performed well recently, but needs further evaluation (may be borderline hardy in some years). Native grapes (e.g., <i>Vitis vulpina</i> *) are best for naturalistic use.	Muscadine Grape	Full sun to light shade best; twining; deciduous; grow on structures or large trees because of rapid growth (pruning needed for best fruit production); tolerate dry sites
<i>Wisteria frutescens</i> *	American or Atlantic Wisteria	Full sun; twining; deciduous; Asian species are invasive in VA

B. TENDER VINES (ALL HERBACEOUS)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Comments
<i>Asarina scandens</i> ('Violet Glow')	Twining Snapdragon	Full sun; twining
<i>Ipomoea (Mina) lobata</i> <i>I. quamoclit</i> <i>I. x multifida</i>	Crimson Starglory Vine Cypress Vine Cardinal Climber	Full sun; none of these species are invasive; twining
<i>Thunbergia alata</i> ('Alba')	Black-eyed Susan Vine	Full sun; reseeds in some sites; twining

© 2003. Updated 3/2003 (Vine); developed by Brenda Skarphol, Curatorial Horticulturist